

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.: 09/843,496	)	TC/A.U. 3724
	)	
Applicants: Ashby et al.	)	Examiner: Stephen Choi
	)	
Filed: April 25, 2001	)	Confirmation No. 9267
	)	
Title: Easy Cutter	)	Att. Docket No. 29985/05-113A
	)	

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 4, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office action having a mail date of May 4, 2006. The fee for a one month extension of time is submitted herewith. Applicants note that September 4, 2006 fell on Labor Day, a national holiday, and therefore this paper is submitted on the first regular business day thereafter. Accordingly, only a one-month extension is required.

Please amend the application and consider the remarks as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-33 (Canceled)

34 (Previously Presented) A medical kit comprising:

a sheet of hemostatic material having an edge surface;

a hemostatic material delivery device; and

a device for cutting at least one pledget from the sheet of hemostatic foam material, wherein the pledget is shaped for insertion into the hemostatic material delivery device, the cutting device including:

a base defining a first opening having at least two flat side portions, the first opening being sized to form the pledget;

a guide stop associated with the base and adapted to engage the hemostatic material edge surface, the guide stop being aligned along a guide plane that intersects the at least two flat side portions; and

a flap articulated with respect to the base and including a first cutting edge sized to correspond to the first opening

35. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 34, in which the base includes a second opening having at least two flat side portions, in which the guide plane further intersects the two flat side portions of the second opening, and in which the flap includes a second cutting edge sized to correspond with the second opening, thereby to cut a second pledget from the sheet of hemostatic material.

36. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 34, further comprising a ridge extending from the flap and toward the opening.

37. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 34, in which the hemostatic material comprises a hemostatic foam, and the base and flap are formed of a material suitable for cutting the hemostatic foam.

38. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 34, in which the base and flap are formed of a molded plastic material.

39. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 34, in which the guide stop comprises a guide edge projecting from the base.

**REMARKS**

By this amendment, only claims 34-39 remain pending in the application. In the Office action of May 4, 2006, the Examiner indicated that each of these claims was allowed. There being no other outstanding issues, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

It is submitted that the present application is in good and proper form for allowance. A favorable action on the part of the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney

Respectfully submitted,  
MILLER, MATTHIAS & HULL

September 5, 2006

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent E. Matthias", is written over a horizontal line.

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